

MINUTE ITEM

5. (OIL AND GAS LEASING PROGRAM - GEN. DATA, OIL & GAS.)

The Executive Officer brought up the question of when the Commission could again start working on its oil and gas leasing program, and of whether procedures could be started immediately before the new legislation passed by the current session of the Legislature becomes effective. Based on a brief discussion and on comments made by Deputy Attorney General Jay L. Shavelson, it was determined that preliminary work could be started immediately looking towards the issuance of future oil leases, inasmuch as the preliminary work required will not be changed in any way by A.B. 47. However, Mr. Kirkwood indicated that he would hesitate to take any official action presently, and that he would prefer to await recommendations to be made by the staff at the next meeting of the Commission predicated on an opinion to be obtained from the Attorney General as to the legal precepts involved.

Mr. Paul Lower of The Superior Oil Company informed the Commission that based on the experience his company had had in drilling a dry hole in the Point Mugu area, there did not appear to be any need "to resuscitate" action on the lands considered previously under W. O. 2243.